

Gas Tax Funds Transferred to Sidewalk Job

Instead of spending some \$8,500 as originally "ear-marked" by the city from its state gasoline tax allocation for resurfacing Cravens avenue (Cabrillo to Torrance boulevard) and portions of Marcelina and Arlington avenues, the city council decided to use the fund for putting in a sidewalk and curb on the west side of Narbonne avenue.

This action, which rescinds a six-months' old resolution for the original street improvement, was taken at an adjourned meeting of the city board held last Thursday afternoon. The Narbonne project is already under way.

At the same time, the council voted to purchase 400 sacks of cement for the Narbonne project and for continuation of the walk on the west side of Arlington avenue to the beginning of the present sidewalk on that street.

MR. OLDFIELD, GANGWAY!

Boy Builds Electric Speed Car

Frankie Thomas, Movie and Stage Star, Spends Spare Time in Basement Workshop

FRANKIE THOMAS has pulled tradition down by the ears! For one thing, he is a successful star of both stage and screen, at that in-between age when juvenile stars are generally neither seen nor heard of. For another, though he has been appearing as a professional since he was carried onto the stage in his mother's arms at the age of nine months, he is a thoroughly all-round boy who



Frankie Thomas builds a car that will go 20 m.p.h. at the flip of a switch.

plays right half-back on his school football team and does carpentry. Last year Frankie was starred in the motion picture "Wednesday's Child". This fall, when the curtain went up on his current Broadway production, "Seen But Not Heard", a friend whispered to his mother—"He's done it!"

"Done what?" said Mrs. Thomas, casting an anxious mother-eye around to see what Frankie had done now.

"Bridged the gap," replied the friend. "That's the amazing thing about this youngster. Better than any theatrical prodigy of the last two decades, which list includes such spectacular names as Jackie Cooper, Baby Peggy and Jackie Coogan, Frankie Thomas has bridged the awkward age that is a go-between from childhood to maturity."

On the stage he has all the poise of a veteran. Off-stage, though in many ways amazingly mature for a boy of fifteen, he is as completely possessed by sports and hobbies as the average youngster of his age.

Interviewed recently in his basement workshop at the family home near Summit, New Jersey, he said his main interest was in the miniature car shown in the photograph. "I made the plans myself," he said.

Young Thomas had hoped to finish his car in time to enter it

four acres that make up his parents' country home.

In the woods back of the Thomases home in the Watchung Mountains of New Jersey, Frankie and two friends from the Professional Children's School in New York City have built a log cabin which they use for a clubhouse. The walls are hung with tennis rackets, golf sticks and hunting trophies collected by the boys. And the young star is eagerly counting the days until he can park his "Kathmobile" with a flourish in front of this "bachelor's paradise!"

Both Mr. and Mrs. Thomas are actors and both of them believe the best way for Frankie to develop his amazing talent is for him to lead as normal a life as possible.

"You can't portray a human being on the stage, unless you are one. We send Frankie to a school that only differs from regular public schools in that the hours, classes start at ten, so the youngsters can catch up on sleep. We don't want Frankie to live apart

in the false, sheltered existence of so many child stars," added pretty, blonde Mrs. Thomas, as she stepped gingerly across the basement floor strewn with nails and tools, and led the way upstairs away from the clatter of her famous son's hammering.

SPORTS

Rally Wins Game

Merchants Overtake Colored Giants To Score 7 to 5 Victory Sunday

Coming from behind with four runs in the sixth inning, the Lomita Merchants overcame an early Los Angeles Colored Giant lead to defeat the dusky invaders, 7 to 5, at the Torrance city park diamond Sunday.

The Giants had scored twice in the first and third cantos to lead the Merchants who tallied twice in the third and once in the fifth and then staged their sixth frame rally which netted the victory. Polica, Merchant center fielder, and Manager Walt Morris, who filled in at short in the absence of Weddle, whose broken finger of last

week is knitting, poled out two hits each to pace the Lomita hitters. Davis, Giant shortstop, poled out four bingles to top the visitors.

Lomita's rally began with four markers on two hits by J. Venable and Morris, two errors, two walks and a hit batter. Patalano started for the Merchants but went out in the fifth after allowing eight hits. Grant finished the game. Fillmore and Carter hurled for the Giants.

Next Sunday the Lomita team will take on the U. S. S. Tennessee nine, according to Manager Walt Morris.

Sport Shots

By Bob Lewellen

U. P. Conducting Annual Sports Poll of Clients

Because The Herald is a subscriber to United Press news service, and because it only took a few minutes and a stamp, your observer of things athletic responded to the annual sports ballot sent him this week to settle several matters pertaining to American sports history for 1936.

We maintain that Jesse Owens was the No. 1 athlete of the year, topping Schmeling, Fischer, Morris, Hubbell and Notre Dame's unpronounceables. To the question: "What was the outstanding team achievement of '36," we answer: The U.S. Olympic team.

Other opinions sent to the poll were: That the Eleanor Holm Jarrett case was the greatest controversial incident of the year; that Joe Louis was the greatest disappointment; that the N. Y. Giants in the World Series were the part of a team; that Schmeling's victory over Louis was the outstanding sports surprise; that we believe commercialism is increasing in sports; that there is need for a national sports administrator who would be a cabinet officer—and we nominate Jimmy Walker or James A. Farley for the post.

The 10 individuals we believe will dominate the sports page headlines nationally in '37 are: Joe Louis, Jim Braddock, Bill Graber (pole vaulter), Archie San Romani, Elmer Layden, "Dizzy" Dean and Amby Schindler of U.S.C.

Ex-Popcorn Boy Promises to Pack Stands in '37

Bob Feller's continuation with the Cleveland Indians has brought joy to fans, who expect their boy pitcher hero to become one of the major leagues' biggest attractions.

Feller's possibilities as a drawing card were indicated late last season when large crowds turned out not only in Cleveland but on the road to see the 17-year-old marvel shoot his fast ball.

Fans believe Feller may give the American League the individual crowd-drawing personality it has lacked since Babe Ruth stepped out. They feel the young fireball hurler, who has forced the great Jerome Herman Dean to share his throne as strike-out king of the majors, may assume the popularity role in the American League that the Cardinal ace holds in the National.

Baseball experts here raise one big question mark about Feller: Will he last? The Indian management drew some censure by fans last summer for making a starting hurler of the high school boy. Feller's record thus far has been one of progression.

He pitched 10 no-hit games before starting in the majors. In

PREDICT BANNER CROWD FOR RACE SEASON OPENING FRIDAY

REVOLVER SCORES

Averages to Dec. 21

Strings	Avg.
Eckersley	6 270.83
Freeman	8 270.25
Stanger	22 268.00
Anders	7 265.43
DeBra	5 264.60
Bennett	6 264.50
Grant	11 249.00
Travioli	12 244.50
Calder	10 233.70
J. Morgan	6 226.66
Spehger	5 224.40
Stroh	7 221.00
Haslam	4 218.00
Dolton	12 213.33
Smith	3 199.66
Schumacher	5 185.40
Colburn	3 183.00
Evans	5 173.80

Narbonne's New Building Being Completed Now

Narbonne high school may start the New Year with its \$240,000 addition ready for use. It was learned this week as 48 workmen pushed the new unit toward completion.

Work was started last May and the building was to have been finished by the opening of the fall term. Several delays and changes in project formalities have prolonged the work until the present time.

Painting is going on as carpenters put the finishing touches to the inside of the structure. Electrical fixtures will probably be installed next week.

LIBRARY HOURS TOLD; STORIES FOR CHILDREN

The Torrance library will open at 11 a. m., and close at 5 p. m., Thursday, Dec. 24. During the afternoon there will be Christmas stories told for children. The library will be closed all Christmas Day.

The bugle blows at Santa Anita park at 1 p. m. Friday to bring the horses on the track for 53 days of racing (no events on Sundays and Mondays) to last until March 6. A banner attendance seems assured. The gates will open at 10 a. m. to accommodate the thousands that will take in the opening card, which will feature the \$5,000 added Christmas Stake at a mile.

Fair weather is hoped for as a treat for the many out-of-state visitors, but the show will go on rain or shine. An added feature for the third racing season will be a brilliant mid-winter flower show, some millions of plants in bloom having been set out in the infield since last opening day.

Everything Ready

Turf history is expected to be enacted at Santa Anita with the greatest gathering of thoroughbreds and jockeys ever at a single race course. The world's richest stake, the \$100,000 added Santa Anita Handicap, will be run on Feb. 27, drew a record number of 88 of the top stake horses in the country and the \$50,000 added Santa Anita Derby on Feb. 22 attracted 106 nominations, more than those entered for the Kentucky Derby.

Practically all of these horses are at the track with the total number running around 1,325. There is to be another stake on Saturday, the Santa Maria at six furlongs, with another big program billed to start at 1:30 p. m.

The Los Angeles Turf Club announces everything in readiness for the season with new auto thoroughfares, parking areas and other improvements for the convenience of the racing enthusiasts.

Horses to Be Scarce By 1940 FARGO, N. D. (U.P.)—The low point in the downward trend in the number of all horses and mules on U. S. farms is expected to be reached in 1940.

Canadian Vets Give Yule Party Tuesday

The Christmas party of Palos Verdes Post 77, Canadian Legion will be held Tuesday night, Dec. 22, at the clubhouse at Cabrillo beach. All members and their families are expected to attend.

Gaucha Hoopsters Have Practice Tilts Scheduled

Narbonne's varsity and B basketball teams will play practice games with Loyola high on Dec. 31. They will resume regular games with other Marine League teams Jan. 8, playing Torrance on the Gaucha court. The undefeated San Pedro varsity will tackle the Loyola five Jan. 5, three days before the Pirates meet the unblemished El Segundo hoopsters.

the National Baseball Federation Class B tournament at Dayton last year he fanned 21 batters in one game and 15 in another.

And in conclusion . . . We wish for each and every one of you—A Very Happy Holiday Season.

The TORRANCE HERALD carries ALL the NEWS. Don't be an "OUTSIDER"—Subscribe today!



Goodrich TIRES

"BEST IN THE LONG RUN"

One year ago this week we moved into our new home.

During that year business has been good, sales have increased and, what is far more important, we have added countless new friends and customers to our ever lengthening list that has grown steadily since Harvel's was founded in 1921.

And now, with Christmas here and a new year before us, we pause to wish all good things to everyone . . . which, said plainly, is . . .

WILLARD Batteries

UNION OIL Products

Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year



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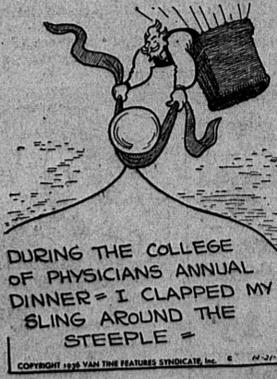
To Our Many Friends and Customers Who, Through Their Kindly and Agreeable Business Relationships This Past Year Have Made It Possible For Us to Enjoy a Truly Happy Holiday Season—To Those We Extend a Hearty and Sincere Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year

Firestone

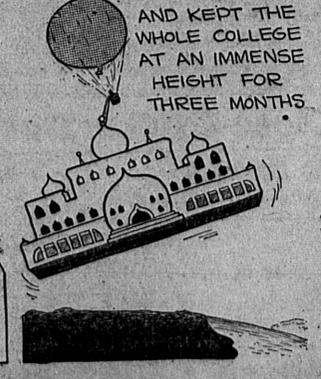
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BARON MUNCHAUSEN

ONCE I MADE A HUGE SILK BALLOON; WITH IT AND MY FAMOUS SLING I PLAYED MANY TRICKS.



DURING THE COLLEGE OF PHYSICIANS ANNUAL DINNER I CLAPPED MY SLING AROUND THE STEEPLE.



AND KEPT THE WHOLE COLLEGE AT AN IMMENSE HEIGHT FOR THREE MONTHS.

— By Fred Nordley

DURING THAT TIME, NO DEATHS HAPPENED = THE UNDERTAKERS BEING UNABLE TO ATTEND THEIR CLIENTS. THEIR BUSINESSES SUFFERED EXTENSIVELY.

DON'T LAUGH

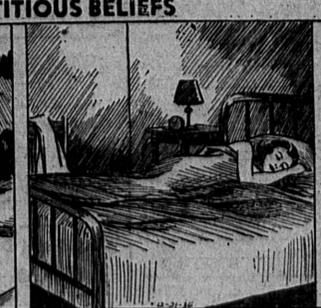


IF YOU ARE TROUBLED BY RATS, CATCH ONE, SINGE ITS HAIR AND LET IT GO. ALL THE OTHER RATS WILL FOLLOW.

SUPERSTITIOUS BELIEFS



DO COUNTERACT THE BAFFLING INFLUENCE OF A BLACK CAT CROSSING YOUR PATH, RETURN HOME IMMEDIATELY AND DO NOT VENTURE FORTH AGAIN UNTIL THE SUN HAS RISEN AND SET.



IF YOU DREAM OF BROOM FLOWERS THERE WILL BE A BLESSED EVENT IN YOUR FAMILY.



IF YOU ARE CERTAIN TO HAVE DEALINGS WITH A RED HAired NEGRO IF YOU SEE A WHITE MULE.

— By Blumey